

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:195

ANSWERED ON:08.03.2000

INDIAN LAND OCCUPIED ILLEGALLY BY PAKISTAN AND CHINA

MOHAN RAWALE;PRABHAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the area of Indian land illegally occupied by Pakistan and China;
- (b) the area of Indian land illegally transferred to China by Pakistan; and
- (c) the steps taken/propose to be taken by the Government to get back these areas?

Answer

THE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI JASWANT SINGH)

(a): The area under forcible and illegal occupation of Pakistan is approximately 78,000 sq. kms. There is an area of approximately 38,000 sq. kms. under the illegal occupation of China.

(b): Under the so-called 'Sino-Pak Boundary Agreement' of 1963, Pakistan ceded 5180 sq. kms. of Indian territory to China.

(c) Under the Simla Agreement and the Lahore Declaration, Government is committed to resolving all issues with Pakistan through peaceful negotiations and direct bilateral dialogue.

Discussions on the boundary question with China are conducted within the framework of the India-China Joint Working Group (JWG) and its sub group, the India-China Expert Group (EG). Both India and China are committed to working towards a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable settlement of the boundary question. The Agreements on Maintenance of Border Peace and Tranquility, signed in 1993, and on confidence building measures in the military field along the Line of Actual Control in the India-China border areas signed in November 1996, contribute to the maintenance of peace and tranquility in the border areas.

Government remains committed to ensure that the territorial integrity of India is not compromised under any circumstances.